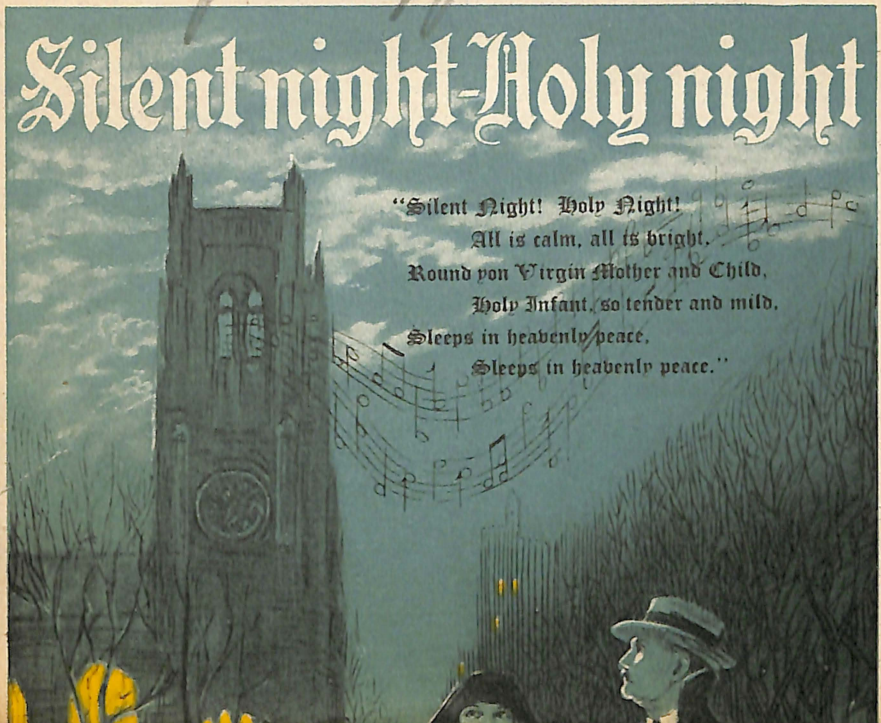
The Fragrance of Goodness

Silent night-Holy night



THE FRAGRANCE OF GOODNESS.

Mark 7:24 He could not be hid.

INTRO. The fragrant flowers of this Spring.
The bowl of sweet peas on the communion table suggested to my mind that the goodness of X was like their fragrance, sending forth sweetness to all the surroundings. The TEXT, read.

I. X desired at this time to be hid, withdrawing to the coast of Tyre and Sidon for that purpose.

1. He needed rest. His humanity. His extensive minis rations and outpouring of sympathy and healing.

2. To avoid the limelight. True goodness is humble
Multitudes gathered to hear him and crowds would witness his healings.
But Jesus wished to avoid all such popularity.
"the modesty of high goodness"
Nor did Jesus wish the disciples to seek recognition

3. To avoid the sinful living that was all about him.
Pure goodness shrinks from all wickedness and vulgarity.
Heart-sore and heart-sick, Jesus oft wieshed to be alone, away from it all.

II. But Christ could not be hid. Why?

1. Because he was good, and goodness is self-revealing.
A rose cannot be hid. Put it in your pocket, those who meet you will know of it, they will smell its fragrance. Goodness will out.

2. Because mankind has great needs and is ever ~~seeking~~ looking for aid. As someone has said, "Misery has a swift instinct for a helper"
The mother tormented over the evil spirit in possession of her daughter, quickly sought out ~~X~~ X the Healer. Because of the world's needs, the Christ will ever be sought because His goodness
3. is sufficient for all our needs.

3. Because our own love and faith will ever lead us to Him.
Examiner article.

4. Because gratitude will ever make Him known to others. Those who have tasted of His goodness cannot hide it from others. "X's name is like ointment poured They themselves become the more fragrant. (fourth The meadow filled with fragrance. No flowers could be seen, but their aroma sweetened the air. True Xns cannot be hid; their goodness is like the fragrance of flowers

"The lives that make the world so sweet,
Are shy, and hide like the humble flowers.
We pass them by with our careless feet,
Nor dream 'tis their fragrance fills the bower
And cheers and comforts us by the hour."

The world's attitude towards true goodness is like that of bees towards the sweet blossoms. The goodness of God in Christ and the goodness of God in all mankind is lifting humanity to the higher levels of being.

III. How can we make our lives spirituall fragrant?

1. Cultivate the spirit of Christ. Be like Him Human and humane, humble and self-sacrificing, sensitive to sin, to shun it, sensitive to the purity and holiness of God to emulate it.

2. Make Christ your companion.
"Why are you so sweet?" was asked the scented clay
"Oh, I was so long in the sweet society of the rose, laid away in a drawer with it, that I partook of th nature of the rose."
Be much with X and you will partake of His nature; you will grow to become a spiritually fragrant life.